UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/949
S/25795
18 May 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 45
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 18 May 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter addressed to you on 17 May 1993 by His Excellency Mr. Osman Ertuğ, representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 45, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Inal BATU
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Letter dated 17 May 1993 from Mr. Osman Ertuğ
to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to a recent letter circulated by the Greek Cypriot representative (A/47/944-S/25740), which was in response to a previous letter I had addressed to you on 4 May 1993 (A/47/939-S/25725, annex).

This letter, both with its aggressive tone and hostile content, has taken the anti-Turkish propaganda of the Greek Cypriot side to new lows. While this unfortunate letter does not merit a detailed reply, I would like to put on record our utter indignation at the attitude displayed by the Greek Cypriot representative through this letter and to point out its wider implications for the process of negotiations on the eve of New York talks.

Attempting to deny the Turkish Cypriot side the most natural right to respond to allegations which are of direct concern for us can only be the product of a mentality which cannot tolerate even the existence of the Turkish Cypriots. The Greek Cypriot representative cannot hide his side's underlying resentment towards their Turkish Cypriot counterparts by claiming that in his statement in the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations "... no references whatsoever were made to the Turkish Cypriot community". Ignoring or trying to bypass the Turkish Cypriots as their direct counterpart in the Cyprus dispute does not absolve the Greek Cypriots of wrongdoing; on the contrary, it adds insult to injury by revealing how little respect they have for the Turkish Cypriots and how unprepared they are to establish a federation with us.

At a time when an atmosphere conducive to meaningful negotiations is needed most, this new manifestation of ill will on the part of the Greek Cypriot side leaves us to wonder whether the Greek Cypriot side will ever have the desire to settle the issue with us on the basis of a bi-communal, bi-zonal federation, or whether they are merely wasting the time of the international community.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 45, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Osman ERTUĞ
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus